Oxbow Recreation Site Solar Power Installation

Need

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Oxbow Recreation Site, located on the California side of the Colorado River approximately three miles south of Paloverde, California, provides a comfort station, a host site, a boat ramp, and dispersed overnight camping opportunities. Approximately 100,000 people utilize this recreation site throughout the year. Under the supervision of the BLM's Yuma Field Office, this project will replace the existing host site's solar power system; the new system will be sized using net-zero energy principles. The site currently has limited solar capabilities, and the existing solar system is antiquated and inefficient. The project will include connection to the existing utility grid through the electrical service meter. The initial construction schedule estimate begins June 2010 and ends August 2010.



Though specific areas will be restricted while under construction, the site and boat ramp will remain accessible throughout completion of the project. Minimal electrical service interruptions will occur at the project's completion for system start up and testing routines.

Recovery Act Funding

Information about the funding allocated for this BLM-Arizona American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) project will be released after the contract has been awarded.

Benefits

This project promotes the use of a renewable energy source at a federal recreation site and will increase electrical service capacity at the host site. This project will significantly decrease the dependency of this site on the electric grid.



More Information

For more information about this BLM ARRA project, contact Britt Bowen, District Engineer, at 928-505-1305 or Britt_Bowen@blm.gov; or the BLM-Arizona ARRA Coordinator, at 602-417-9641.